

SENATE BILL 9063

By Niceley

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 2;  
Title 4; Title 5; Title 6; Title 7; Title 8; Title 9; Title  
29; Title 33; Title 37; Title 49; Title 50; Title 56;  
Title 58; Title 63; Title 68 and Title 71, relative to  
COVID-19.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 68, Chapter 11, Part 2, is amended by  
adding the following as a new section:

(a) As used in this section:

(1) "COVID-19" means the novel coronavirus, SARS-CoV-2, and  
coronavirus disease 2019, including a mutation of the novel coronavirus, SARS-  
CoV-2, and coronavirus disease 2019;

(2) "Family member" means a spouse, parent, grandparent, stepmother,  
stepfather, child, grandchild, brother, sister, half-brother, half-sister, adopted  
child, or spouse's parent; and

(3) "Hospital" has the same meaning as defined in § 68-11-201.

(b) Notwithstanding a law to the contrary, during a period in which a disaster,  
emergency, or public health emergency for COVID-19 has been declared, a hospital  
shall not restrict a patient from having at least one (1) family member present with the  
patient during the stay in the hospital as long as the family member tests negative for  
COVID-19 and is not exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 or another virus or  
communicable disease.

SECTION 2. The department of health is authorized to promulgate rules, including  
emergency rules, to effectuate this act. The rules must be promulgated in accordance with the

Uniform Administrative Procedures Act, compiled in Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4,  
Chapter 5.

SECTION 3. This act takes effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.